REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heslin Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor

San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 415-576-0300 Attachments

JMH:jke 60275376 v1



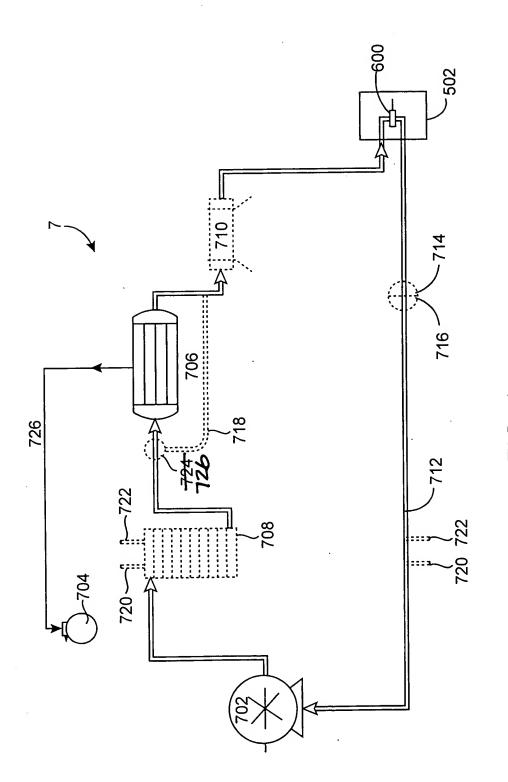


FIG. 1